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(54) Title: SALT PRODUCT AND METHOD FOR ITS PREPARATION**(57) Abstract**

The present invention relates to a sodium-reduced salt for use in food, the sodium chloride wholly or partly having been replaced by a double salt of potassium compounds and magnesium compounds. The invention also relates to a method for the preparation of said salt, a solution of potassium compounds and magnesium compounds being dissolved in water, and then evaporated.

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SALT PRODUCT AND METHOD FOR ITS PREPARATION

The present invention relates to a sodium-reduced salt for use in food, NaCl being wholly or partly replaced by double salts of potassium and magnesium.

Common salt, or sodium chloride, is the additive 5 most frequently used in ordinary cooking, as well as in large scale preparation of food. Man, like other warm-blooded animals, needs a certain intake of sodium ions and chloride ions, but this intake is usually much larger than the minimum required to compensate for 10 inevitable losses.

To people with certain illnesses, e.g. those denoted by the generic term "high blood-pressure", a large intake of salt is considered injurious. Moreover, it is feared that too large an intake of sodium ions may 15 result in an unbalance between the ions in the body fluids so that especially the proportions of sodium to potassium are disturbed.

To control the intake of salt, it has therefore been proposed to use various salt combinations in which 20 sodium chloride has been partly replaced by other salts, primarily potassium chloride.

Replacing sodium chloride by other chemical compounds entails several disadvantages, e.g. a deterioration in taste, which is basically inevitable since 25 only sodium chloride can produce the sensation of a "salty" taste. Additives which conceal or disguise the different taste of the common salt substitute, may bring an improvement, but the approved additives to food are very few, the most common one being magnesium 30 sulphate.

A further complication is that, when a number of pulverulent compounds are intermixed, the mixture may easily become inhomogeneous, especially when it consists of grains of different sizes and densities and

is dispensed from a caster. This may produce unexpected and unsuitable taste sensations. Storing over longer periods of time may also cause stratification in the product, thus increasing the inhomogeneity.

5 Sodium chloride often affects other food qualities than taste. By bonding water, it may have a preserving effect, and it can cooperate with other substances to produce a suitable or traditional consistency. In these cases as well, the replacement of common salt by other substances involves major inconveniences.

10 In spite of the above-mentioned difficulties, there is a considerable interest in using sodium-reduced salt not only as a complementary medication, but also for cooking.

15 Previously known salt products for use in food and with a reduced content of NaCl mainly consist of potassium, magnesium, calcium and, of course, sodium chloride.

20 Swedish Patent 7901586-3 discloses such a product which, within fixed limits in percent by weight, contains NaCl, a potassium compound, and a magnesium compound, and which is a pure mixture of its ingredients. US patent specification 1,998,179 concerns another salt mixture with fixed contents of sodium, potassium, magnesium, and 25 calcium.

25 WO 85/00958 discloses a salt mixture comprising NaCl, KCl, and a magnesium salt, such as magnesium sulphate or magnesium chloride. WO 85/02324 is concerned with a salt mixture which, in order to affect the electrolyte balance in the body, comprises the ions Na⁺, K⁺, Mg²⁺ and H⁺.

30 US patent specification 4,068,006 discloses a salt mixture containing sodium chloride, potassium chloride, and citric acid, and US patent specification 35 1,160,191 concerns a specific mixture of sodium chloride and potassium chloride. DE Offenlegungsschrift 2,305,980 discloses a mineral salt preparation consisting of

potassium, calcium, magnesium, and very little sodium.

All of these known salt products are pure mixtures and suffer from the above-mentioned disadvantages, thus providing the user with an inhomogeneous product.

5 The inconveniences of sodium-reduced salt having a given content of the ions sodium, potassium, chloride and sulphate, can however be compensated for if the sodium-reduced salt is prepared by co-crystallisation and not only by powder mixing.

10 One object of the present invention is to provide a salt for use in food, which can replace pure NaCl for both household and industrial use.

15 Another object of the invention is to provide a sodium-reduced salt which will prove more satisfactory to the user than previously known sodium-reduced salt mixtures.

A further object of the invention is to provide especially preferred methods for the preparation of the salt.

20 These objects are achieved by means of a salt which is characterised in that it contains one or more double salts of potassium and magnesium. The method according to the invention for the preparation of such a salt comprises

- 25 a) dissolving suitable potassium compounds and magnesium compounds in water to form a mixture,
b) evaporating the resulting mixture to form a double salt comprising water of crystallisation, the evaporation occurring at a temperature at which
30 the double salt is stable, and
c) extracting the double salt.

35 A particularly preferred salt according to the invention is a salt which, apart from one or more double salts of potassium compounds and magnesium compounds, also contains sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride, and in which the sodium chloride and/or the potassium chloride by a special technique is

made to adhere mechanically to the double salt crystals.

This technique involves that a double salt from step c), above, or a double salt of natural occurrence and in a solid state, optionally together with other salts and additives in a solid state, is suspended in a saturated solution of sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride, and that the resulting suspension is evaporated to a suitable dry solids content at a temperature at which the double salt is stable, crystals of sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride adhering mechanically to the double salt crystals, or alternatively that the double salt in a solid state, optionally together with other salts and additives in a solid state, is carefully heated so that the water of crystallisation evaporates, while the crystal structure is maintained, and that the dehydrated double salt is added to a saturated solution of sodium and/or potassium, the water content of which is equal to the amount of evaporated water of crystallisation, crystals of sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride adhering mechanically to the double salt crystals.

The invention is described in more detail below, reference being made to the accompanying drawings in which Figs 1-4 are photographs enlarged 50 times showing crystal fractions of different salt products according to the invention, and Figs 5 and 6 are photographs enlarged 50 times showing crystal fractions of two comparable prior art salts.

The salt product according to the invention may in addition contain potassium chloride and, optionally, physiologically acceptable additives.

In the context of this invention, salts for use in food also include salts for medical use, such as dietetic salts containing no sodium chloride, as well as salts for animal feed.

Under suitable conditions, so-called double salts form, in which one or more ion types are completely

bonded. Carnallite, $KMgCl_3 \cdot 6H_2O$, and kainite, $KMgClSO_4 \cdot 3H_2O$, are examples of two such double salts which are formed comparatively easily upon crystallisation of suitable salt solutions. In powder form, these
5 double salts taste different from a pure mixture of the salts which formally can make up the double salt in question. The taste is usually considered milder, and rather resembles the taste of common salt. Mixtures of common salt and double salt seem to taste more like
10 common salt than conventional sodium-reduced mixtures.

The co-crystallised salt is not split up into separate components when used in powder form, which is essential to the taste sensation when the salt is sprinkled directly on food, such as slices of cucumber or tomatoes, or eggs, or when used in the form of an aqueous solution or worked into the food. Since the salt
15 is not split up into separate components, the composition is virtually the same throughout.

Sodium chloride is the main ingredient in sodium-reduced salt, except salt for dietetic food in clinical use, but is no part of the most common double salts of natural occurrence. Suitable conditions render it nonetheless possible to make sodium chloride adhere mechanically to the other components, and suitable
20 additives can counteract the inconveniences caused by a reduction of sodium chloride in a number of recipes in the food manufacturing industry. Thus, it is possible to maintain a satisfactory consistency for cured meats and provisions even if the conventional dosage of common
25 salt is reduced, provided that a small amount of polymeric phosphates (pyrophosphate and metaphosphate) is added
30 to the salt mixture used in the production.

For instance, KCL, $MgCl_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ and $MgSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$ may serve as base compounds for the formation according
35 to the invention of double salts.

The resulting double salts are, for example, $KMgCl_3 \cdot 6H_2O$ and $KClMgSO_4 \cdot 3H_2O$.

Other double salts can also be formed from potassium compounds and magnesium compounds.

The amount of NaCl replaced by the above-mentioned double salts is dependent on the desired end product,

5 i.e. whether the latter is to replace ordinary table salt, be used for salting, or serve as a dietetic salt etc. An end product according to the invention may contain 0-90% NaCl, preferably 40-80% and particularly 30-50%, by weight of the total product.

10 The double salt may be combined with sodium chloride as well as with potassium chloride, and various physiologically acceptable additives, such as polymeric phosphates, potassium iodide, sodium nitrite, ascorbic acid, amino acids and salts thereof, and anti-caking 15 agents, can also be added. These additives are well known to a person skilled in the art.

The double salt content may be 10-100%, suitably 10-50%, and the content of pure KCl (i.e. not forming a part of the double salt) 0-50%, suitably 30-50%.

20 The amount of additives is suitably 3-5%. The above-mentioned percentage rates are all by weight and based on the weight of the total mixture.

A product consisting of 15 parts by weight of carnallite, 35 parts by weight of potassium chloride, 25 and 50 parts by weight of sodium chloride, and a product containing equal proportions of kainite, potassium chloride, and sodium chloride, constitute examples of preferred end products according to the invention.

Another preferred salt product contains about 30 48% NaCl, about 10% kainite, and about 42% KCl.

The double salts according to the invention can be prepared in different ways, one method being the dissolution in water, preferably boiling water, of the potassium compounds and magnesium compounds destined to 35 form the double salt, whereupon the mixture is slowly evaporated, for example under the action of microwaves, or by means of vacuum evaporation or suchlike. The salt

is recovered, and NaCl and/or KCl, together with other possible additives, are added, resulting in a salt according to the invention, comprising one or more double salts intermixed with NaCl and/or KCl.

5 The salt product according to the present invention can also be prepared by mixing the base compounds and heating them until they melt, which occurs at about 100-150°C. The melt is then allowed to cool, whereupon it is crushed to a fine powder.

10 Conventional crystallisation constitutes another alternative method for the preparation, water being boiled off until crystallisation sets in, whereupon the product is cooled.

15 The method for evaporation is not critical, but can be accomplished by known conventional means, whereas it naturally is of the utmost importance that the evaporation occur at a temperature at which the double salt is stable. When kainite is used, the evaporation temperature must not exceed about 70°C, while the corresponding 20 temperature for carnallite is about 110°C.

A particularly preferred method for the preparation of a salt product according to the invention comprises suspending the double salt in a solid state, optionally together with other salts and additives in a solid 25 state, in a saturated solution of sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride. The resulting suspension is evaporated to a suitable dry solids content, again at a temperature at which the double salt is stable, crystals of sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride 30 adhering mechanically to the double salt crystals and forming a substantially homogeneous conglomerate. The double salt in question can be obtained by any of the above-mentioned methods, or it can be a double salt of natural occurrence.

35 An alternative method comprises carefully heating a double salt in a solid state, such that the water of crystallisation evaporates, whereupon the dehydrated

double salt is added to a saturated solution of sodium and/or potassium, the water content of which equals the amount of evaporated water of crystallisation. The original double crystal structure is reformed, crystals of sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride adhering mechanically to the double salt crystals.

The taste of this product with crystals of sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride adhering to the double salt crystals is better than the taste of a product consisting of a pure powder mixture of double salt, NaCl, and/or KCl.

The formation of a double salt is shown in Figs 1 and 2, while the formation of a crystal conglomerate with NaCl crystals adhering to the double salt crystals, is shown in Figs 3 and 4 which are microscopical photographs enlarged 50 times of different salt products according to the invention.

Fig. 1 shows rhombic carnallite crystals which have crystallised from a solution with a large excess of magnesium chloride.

Fig. 2 shows carnallite of the same crystal fraction, heated in a microwave oven so that four out of the original six water of crystallisation molecules per mole carnallite have evaporated, which can easily be determined by weighing. As is evident, the rhombic crystal structure still remains.

Fig. 3 shows carnallite crystals in a saturated solution of sodium chloride. Here, the crystal shape is more difficult to distinguish since the grains have a coat of small cubical sodium chloride crystals.

Fig. 4 shows a salt product prepared according to the method in Example 6 and composed of 48% NaCl, 10% kainite and 42% potassium chloride. As is evident, the larger double salt crystals have a coat of smaller crystals.

Figs. 5 and 6 show, for comparison, crystal fractions, enlarged 50 times, of two known salt mixtures

with a low sodium chloride content, i.e. the mineral salt Jozo ^(R) (Fig. 5) manufactured by Akzo Salt and Basic Chemicals AB, Box 357, S-401 25 Gothenburg, and the mineral salt Seltin ^(R) (Fig. 6) manufactured by 5 Cederroths AB, Box 715, S-194 27 Upplands Väsby.

The mineral salt Jozo ^(R) contains 60% NaCl, 35% KCl, and 3% MgSO₄ and, as can be seen from the photograph, its ingredients consist of separate crystal grains in mixture.

10 The mineral salt Seltin ^(R) contains 65% NaCl, 25% KCl, and 10% MgSO₄.7H₂O and, as is evident from the photograph, is a mixture of crystals unequal in size. The oblong crystals are MgSO₄.7H₂O.

15 The invention is further illustrated by the following, non-limiting Examples.

EXAMPLE 1

To produce carnallite, KMgCl₃.6H₂O, equal mole quantities of potassium chloride KCl (74.5 g) and magnesium chloride MgCl₂.6H₂O (203 g) are mixed and 20 heated, until a melt is obtained (about 120°C). The melt is then allowed to cool and is crushed to a fine powder. It is also possible to prepare carnallite by dissolving given proportions of potassium chloride and magnesium chloride in boiling water which is boiled off until 25 crystallisation sets in. The subsequent cooling causes the crystallisation of carnallite.

A sodium-reduced salt having 15 parts by weight of carnallite, 35 parts by weight of potassium chloride, and 50 parts by weight of sodium chloride is prepared 30 and is found to taste satisfactory. Product analysis: Na 19.7% (corresponding to 50% NaCl), K 18.3%, Mg 1.3%.

EXAMPLE 2

Carnallite (from Example 1) is heated, and water of crystallisation evaporates, as is evidenced by the 35 resulting decrease in weight. 1 mole carnallite (206 g) having thus lost four moles of water of crystallisation, is mixed with 650 g potassium chloride and 900 g sodium

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chloride. 96 g (81 ml) of a saturated aqueous solution of sodium chloride having a water content equal to the amount of water eliminated from the admixed carnallite, is added to the thoroughly mixed crystal powder. When 5 the water reforms normal carnallite, an intimate mixture of carnallite and sodium chloride is obtained which is of a better quality for aromatic salting than a pure powder mixture. Product analysis: Na 19.7% (corresponding to 50% NaCl), K 20.5%, Mg 1.3%.

10 EXAMPLE 3

To produce the double salt kainite, $KClMgSO_4 \cdot 3H_2O$, potassium chloride (74.5 g, 1 mole) is mixed with magnesium sulphate containing water of crystallisation, $MgSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$ (246.5 g, 1 mole). The mixture is heated to 15 140°C, and a melt is formed, whereupon the temperature is lowered to 65°C. After 2-5 hours, the salts have been changed to kainite, and the excess water has evaporated, which is verified by weighing. In the case in point, the weight is reduced from 321 g to 244 g. The resulting 20 crystal cake is crushed and screened. A mixture of kainite (10%), sodium chloride (48%), and potassium chloride (42%) has an acceptable taste. Product analysis: Na 18.9% (corresponding to 48% NaCl), K 23.6%, Mg 1.0%.

EXAMPLE 4

25 Kainite can also be made to crystallise together with the other ingredients of the salt combination. 236 g magnesium sulphate, $MgSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$, is added to a warm, saturated 540 ml solution of sodium chloride containing 167 g NaCl, and 217 g KCl is admixed to the still warm 30 solution. At a reduced pressure and 60°C, the mixture is evaporated to dryness, until its weight has been reduced from 996 g to 546 g. The resulting crystal cake is crushed and screened. Product analysis: Na 12% (corresponding to 30.5% NaCl), K 20.8%, Mg 1.1%. (An X-ray 35 crystallographic test shows that magnesium is present as kainite in the final product).

EXAMPLE 5

There is added 20 g pulverised carnallite and 10 g pulverised potassium chloride to 400 g (338 ml) of a saturated solution of sodium chloride (corresponding to 100 g NaCl). The mixture is evaporated to dryness, until the weight is reduced from 430 g to 130 g. The resulting crystal cake is crushed and screened.

EXAMPLE 6

In a circulating flow crystalliser ("Magma Crystallizer") 150 g of separately produced kainite, 630 g potassium chloride, and 150 g sodium chloride are suspended in 5 litres of a saturated aqueous solution of sodium chloride. The mixture is kept at a reduced pressure and 60°C, until 1700 g water has evaporated, which corresponds to a precipitation of an additional 570 g sodium chloride. The crystal mass is separated, dried with hot air in a drying drum, and screened. Product analysis: Na 18.9% (corresponding to 48% NaCl), K 23.6%, Mg 1.0%. (The microphotograph of the product shows a crystal conglomerate, and an X-ray crystallographic test shows that magnesium is present as kainite.)

The following Examples relate to samplings by taste involving a salt according to the invention, prior art salt mixtures with a low content of sodium chloride, and a pure sodium chloride salt.

The salt according to the invention is the one described in Example 6 and shown in Fig. 4, and the prior art salts comprise the above-mentioned mineral salts Jozo® and Seltin®, as well as Falksalt® (commercially available from AB Hanson & Möhring, Sweden) which consists of pure NaCl to which iodine has been added.

EXAMPLE 7

Falksalt® and the mineral salts Seltin® and Jozo® were compared by sampling with the salt product according to the invention. The sampling was carried out

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at Nordfalks AB, Box 63, S-431 21 Mölndal, and the panel consisted of ten samplers.

The test was carried out in 3 different rounds:

1. Salt water 6 g/1000 g water
- 5 2. Neutral, mashed potatoes 10 g/1000 g potatoes
3. Hard-boiled eggs 10 g/1000 g eggs

The following results were obtained with a scoring of 1-5, 1 denoting the worst taste and 5 the best taste. Every value is an average of the figures from all the 10 ten samplers.

TEST 1

	Falksalt ^(R)	2.9 points
15	Salt according to the invention	3.0 points
	Mineral salt Seltin ^(R)	2.4 points
	Mineral salt Jozo ^(R)	2.4 points

TEST 2

20	Falksalt ^(R)	3.7 points
	Salt according to the invention	3.2 points
	Mineral salt Seltin ^(R)	2.6 points
	Mineral salt Jozo ^(R)	2.7 points

TEST 3

25	Falksalt ^(R)	3.3 points
	Salt according to the invention	3.8 points
	Mineral salt Seltin ^(R)	2.4 points
	Mineral salt Jozo ^(R)	3.2 points

30 As is apparent from the results, the salt according to the invention compares favourably as to taste with prior art sodium-reduced salts, especially in view of the fact that the mineral salts Jozo ^(R) and Seltin ^(R) contain 60% and 65%, respectively, of NaCl, whereas 35 the tested salt according to the invention only contains 48% NaCl and is an excellent substitute for pure NaCl.

EXAMPLE 8

Another sampling by taste, the mineral salts Jozo^(R) and Seltin^(R), and common salt were compared with the salt product according to the invention.

5 The sampling was made by forty-two test persons from the KF consumer panel for testing food products (KF = the Swedish Cooperative Union and Wholesale Society), Kooperativa Förbundet, Box 15200, S-104 65 Stockholm.

10 The test involved baked egg, and 7.8 g mineral salt or common salt were used together with 5 dl milk and 6 eggs.

The following result was obtained with a scoring of 1-9, 1 denoting the worst taste and 9 the best taste. The values are average values.

15

TestAverage scoring

Mineral salt Jozo ^(R)	7.6
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Mineral salt Seltin ^(R)	7.5
------------------------------------	-----

Common salt	8.0
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20 Salt according to the invention	7.4
------------------------------------	-----

EXAMPLE 9

In yet another sampling by taste, the mineral salts Jozo^(R) and Seltin^(R) were compared with the salt product according to the invention. The sampling was executed by forty-six test persons from the consumer panel at the ICA test kitchen.

30 The test involved salt in baked egg (52 g eggs, 100 ml milk brought to the boil, 1 g salt), as well as salt directly sprinkled on a slice of tomato or cucumber (1 slice of tomato or cucumber, 100 mg salt).

The following average values were obtained with a scoring of 1-9, 1 denoting the worst taste and 9 the best taste.

Taste in baked egg

<u>test</u>	<u>Average scoring</u>
Mineral salt Jozo ^(R)	6.8
Mineral salt Seltin ^(R)	6.7
5 Salt according to the invention	6.7

Taste on vegetable

<u>test</u>	<u>Average scoring</u>
Mineral salt Jozo ^(R)	6.5
10 Mineral salt Seltin ^(R)	6.4
Salt according to the invention	6.4

CLAIMS

1. Salt for use in food, characterised in that it contains one or more double salts of potassium compounds and magnesium compounds.
5. Salt as claimed in claim 1, wherein it also contains sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride, and, optionally, physiologically acceptable additives.
10. Salt as claimed in claim 2, characterised in that crystals of sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride are adhered mechanically to the double salt crystals.
15. Salt as claimed in claim 2, wherein it contains 0-90% by weight, preferably 20-80 % by weight and especially 30-50 % by weight, of sodium chloride.
20. Salt as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the double salt is a double salt of potassium chloride and magnesium chloride or magnesium sulphate.
25. Salt as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein it contains one or more of the following additives: potassium iodide, sodium nitrite, ascorbic acid, amino acids and salts thereof, and anti-caking agents.
30. Salt as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein a small amount of polymeric phosphates, preferably pyrophosphates, has been added to the salt.
35. Method for the preparation of a salt for use in food, containing one or more double salts of potassium compounds and magnesium compounds, characterised by:
 - a) dissolving suitable potassium compounds and magnesium compounds in water to form a mixture,
 - b) evaporating the resulting mixture to form a double salt comprising water of crystallisation, the evaporation occurring at a temperature at which the double salt is stable, and by

c) extracting the double salt.

9. Method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the double salt from step c), or a double salt of natural occurrence and in a solid state, optionally together with other salts and additives in a solid state, is suspended in a saturated solution of sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride, and the resulting suspension is evaporated to a suitable dry solids content at a temperature at which the double salt is stable, crystals of sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride adhering mechanically to the double salt crystals.

10. Method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the double salt from step c), or a double salt of natural occurrence and in a solid state, optionally together with other salts and additives in a solid state, is carefully heated so that the water of crystallisation evaporates, while the crystal structure is maintained, and the dehydrated double salt is added to a saturated solution of sodium and/or potassium, the water content of which is equal to the amount of evaporated water of crystallisation, crystals of sodium chloride and/or potassium chloride adhering mechanically to the double salt crystals.

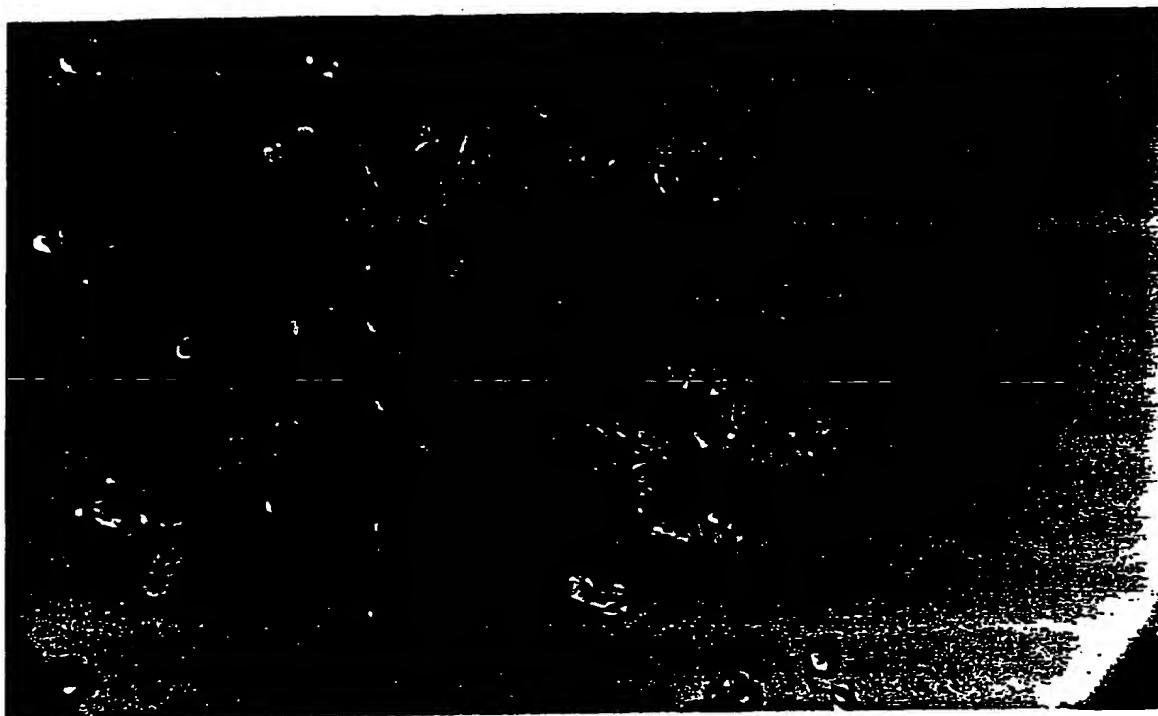


Fig. 1.

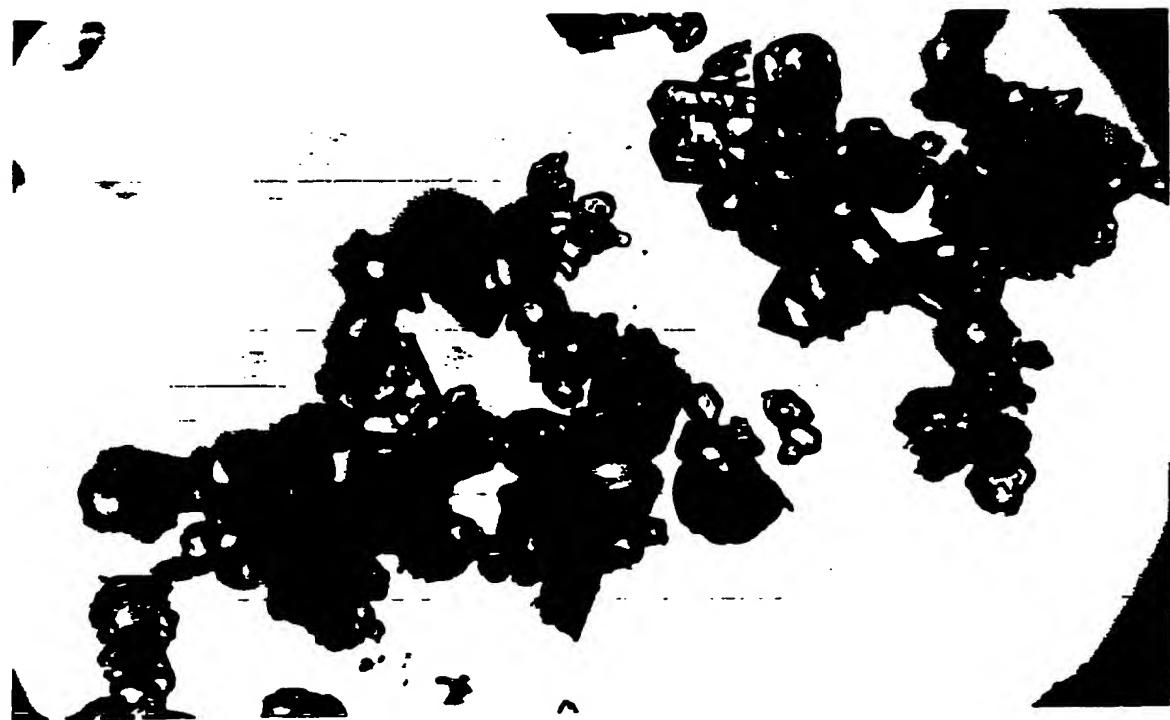


Fig. 2.

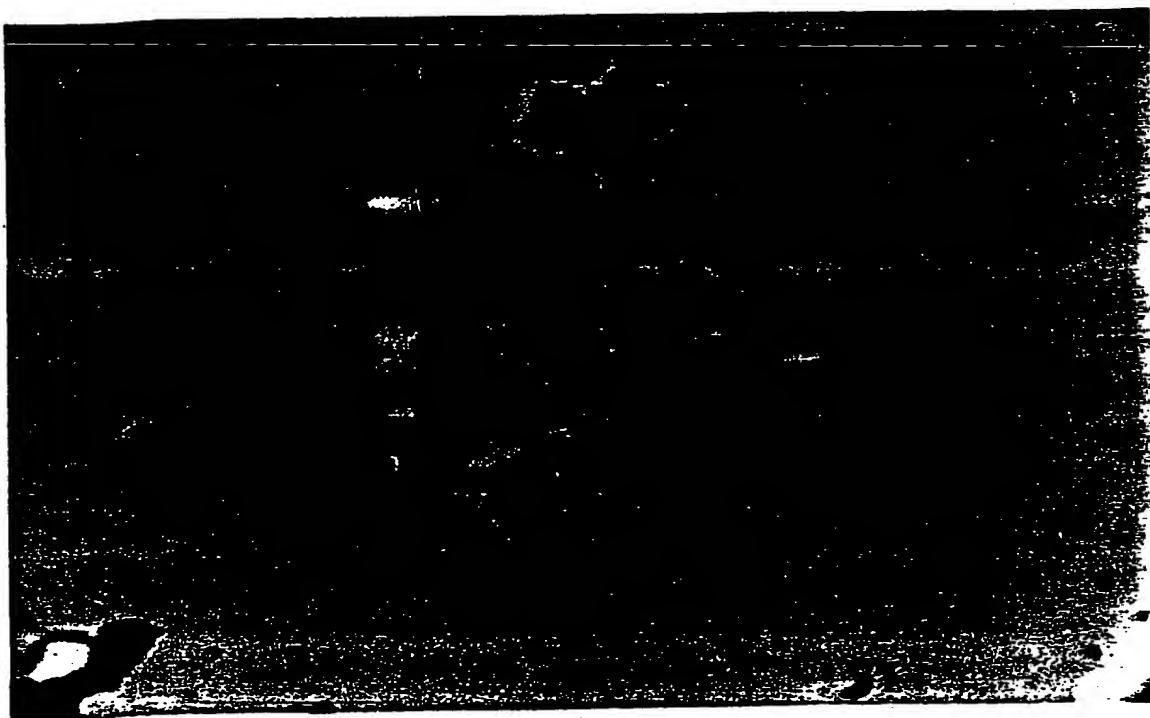


Fig. 3.

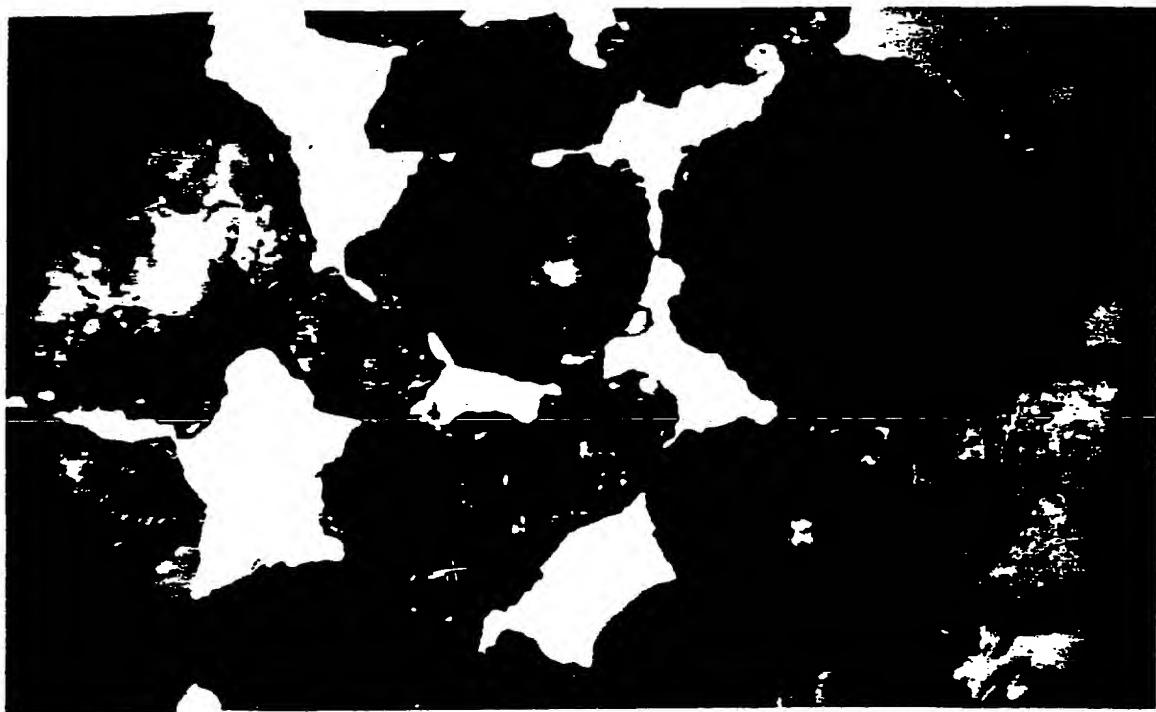


Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/SE89/00410

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) *

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC

C 01 D 3/04, A 23 L 1/237

II. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum Documentation Searched ?

Classification System	Classification Symbols
IPC 4	C 01 D; C 01 F; A 23 L

Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation
to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched *

SE, NO, DK, FI classes as above

III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT*

Category *	Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²	Relevant to Claim No. ¹³
X	SE, B, 440 019 (CEDERROTH NORDIC AB) 15 July 1985 & BE, 874413 NL, 7901469 GB, 2015863 DE, 2906697 JP, 54126778 FR, 2450568 CA, 1112173 SE, 7901586 AU, 529716 CH, 642827 SE, 8403228 SE, 448145	1-5
X	WO, A1, 85/02324 (PHARMACONSULT OY) 6 June 1985 & FR, 2555412 SE, 8503536 GB, 2159413 AU, 572927 CA, 1236403 CH, 667186	1-5

* Special categories of cited documents: ¹⁰

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"Z" document member of the same patent family

IV. CERTIFICATION

Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search

1989-09-15

Date of Mailing of this International Search Report

1989-09-29

International Searching Authority

Swedish Patent Office

Signature of Authorized Officer

Britt-Marie Lundell

III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT (CONTINUED FR. IN THE SECOND SHEET)

Category	Citation of Document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to Claim No.
X	US, A, 4 473 595 (ROBERT P. ROOD ET AL) 25 September 1984 & WO, 85/00958 EP, 0154643 CA, 1210635 AU, 577062	1-5
X	Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 9, No 1 (C-259), abstract of JP 59-154958, publ. 1984-09-04	1-5